

the dear Doctor's death - Also, let me  
know about your dear Selma, &  
if - & when - you resign your  
professorship? with your future  
address, in such case? I do not like  
to send so shabby a letter, to so  
valued a friend, & at so great  
a distance - but my Doctor has  
just called, & under his orders,  
I give up writing - & I pray God  
to bless & preserve you both, for  
many happy years to come -  
Believe that I am - with very  
loving recollections -

Yours affectly.

Wm Carey

Blackheath, 24 Decem<sup>r</sup>.  
1873.

My dear Gray -

At this time of the  
year, our thoughts revert, naturally,  
to those dear to us - & in that sum-  
mer I may assuredly include both  
yourselves, & your dear wife - I feel  
as though I should like to see your  
kind faces, once again - altho that, in  
all human probability - will never be  
granted to me. Since, therefore, it is  
clearly out of my power to pay you  
a visit - I enclose, as my substitutes,  
two old gentlemen, who are said to  
resemble me, closely, & though differing,  
materially, in size - they are both  
considered to be "quite of my sort" -  
I charge these old gentlemen to  
express to you, & Mrs Gray, my  
sincere & earnest good wishes, &

very kind love, for the coming  
year! I trust that they will acquit  
themselves of my message, to the utmost  
of their power - tho' their appearance  
I know will be stiff - which is not  
in accordance with the writer's heart,  
towards you - & for whose sake - I  
know you will accord them a frank  
welcome - But leaving all nonsense,  
I must now tell you, my dear friend,  
that I cannot write you so long  
a letter as I should desire - for I  
am suffering from palpitations of  
the heart, & other rather distressing  
effects of its feeble action - Even writing  
this letter - tho' very pleasurable to  
me - causes me some uneasiness -  
I believe that my symptoms are  
considered as grave - tho' the Doctors  
tell me that I may look forward  
to some amendment of my present  
condition - Still - at 76 1/2 years,

one can only say, with good Aesop,  
"Strange that a heap of thousand things,  
Should keep in time so long" -  
Poor Agassiz has been called away, at  
a very much earlier period of his life.  
He is a great loss to Science, & I suppose  
that the School, he was engaged in founding,  
will also suffer - It is thought, here,  
that over-exertion of mind & body,  
hastened his decease - Was that so?  
I hope that your relations, with him,  
became more cordial - after the dis-  
ruption of your old intimacy - By the  
way, have you an autograph letter of  
his to spare? It is for my girl - as I  
cannot find one, amongst my papers,  
tho' I thought I had one - When you  
or your dear wife, write to me, please  
tell me of the Torrey girls - Are they  
provided for? or are they able to  
make their own way, in the world?  
I would have sent them my "Carte  
de Visite" - but I have not their  
address - tho' I wrote to them since